



2023-2024

ULTIMATE CHEER LUBBOCK | THE ROYAL ACADEMY

Full Year Competitive Cheer Information



THE ROYAL ACADEMY

YOU BELONG HERE!

Thank you for your interest in Ultimate Cheer Lubbock! Ultimate Cheer Lubbock has a welcoming, warm, family atmosphere that is unlike any other cheerleading or tumbling gym in the area. Our program is determined to not only make better cheerleaders, but to make better people.

Ultimate Cheer Lubbock's core values are **Accountability, Commitment, Communication, Trust, and Support.** Our coaches, staff, athletes, and families are expected to adhere to these values.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY

For 2023-2024, we will offer two full year competitive cheer programs: The Royal Academy & The Royal Elite. This information packet includes all things you need to know about The Royal Academy.

The Royal Academy is a 12-month program. This program is for athletes with existing cheer skills and experience that are ready for the commitment, investment, and work of taking their skills to the next level.

Minimum skills for The Royal Academy are bridge kick over and front limber. The Royal Elite teams are judged and ranked against other teams in the same division. This program is for athletes born between 06/01/2004 and 12/31/2018.

TEAM PLACEMENT

Proper athlete placement is a main focus of our program because it ultimately determines the success of the athlete and our teams. Ultimate Cheer Lubbock will create successful teams through proper placement of our athletes not only in the correct age division and skill level but also in the correct program. You will have the option of selecting whether your athlete will accept a spot in The Royal Academy or The Royal Elite.

Evaluations are essentially low-stress workouts. During evaluations, athletes show skills they have developed and demonstrate a potential to learn new skills. Athletes are given opportunities to show skills over a couple of days. This also gives athletes and our coaching staff time to get acquainted with one another.

We must form stunt groups with the correct number of flyers, bases, back spots, and tumblers. Essentially, you are competing against other athletes who are trying out for the same position. For example, there are 5 flyer positions available on Team A. If 8 flyers perform the minimum requirements for Team A, only 5 will be chosen. The other three must either base or back spot on Team A or be placed on a different team to fly.

After the final evaluation session, the staff assembles potential rosters for the upcoming season. There are many things considered when placing athletes and forming teams. Athlete individual skills, experience, and what would form the most competitive and successful team. After rosters are set, families are contacted by email to inform of preliminary team placement. **This preliminary team placement IS NOT FINAL.** Athletes will practice with their preliminary team throughout the month of June. **On June 30th, athletes will receive their FINAL team placement.** This gives athletes and coaches the opportunity to ensure that each athlete is placed appropriately.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY - EVALUATION DATES

Thursday, May 18th

All Levels 7:00-8:30pm

Athletes will attend both evaluation days!

Friday, May 19th

All Levels 5:00-8:00pm

PRELIMINARY TEAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 30th

PRACTICES BEGIN

June 5th



THE ROYAL ACADEMY

ATTENDANCE POLICY

For the 2023-2024 season, Ultimate Cheer Lubbock's The Royal Academy will be a 12-month commitment. Our season will run from June 1, 2023 to May 31, 2024.

The Royal Academy teams will practice 2-3 hours during the week and 1.5 hours on Sunday afternoons. Additional practices will be scheduled as needed. All athletes must attend all extra practices. **We expect top priority and 100% commitment and attendance.**

The only excused absence is a school function that results in a grade. All other absences are unexcused. Part-time jobs, dances, concerts, banquets, long distance driving, family reunions, weddings, recitals, school/church socials, and any other non-related school activities are unexcused.

Absences are NOT allowed the weekend before or the week of a competition or event. An unexcused absence may result in the athlete being moved to an alternate position or pulled from an upcoming competition at the discretion of the staff. It is the responsibility of the athlete to learn any changes prior to practices. Alternates must follow all requirements and guidelines.

An Absence Request Form must be submitted online 2 weeks prior to the absence (www.ultimatecheerlubbock.com/forms). **Do NOT inform a staff member of an absence via social media or text message.** These forms are for absences including school cheerleading, choir, band, and all other school sports. Your school activities are planned well in advance. Please submit your request in advance. Be prepared to show documentation from a teacher or instructor. **You will be removed immediately if the request is falsified.** Absences are not permitted the weekend before or the week of an event, no exceptions.

IMPORTANT DATES

Ultimate Cheer Lubbock is an organized program. All competitions are mandatory for every athlete. We realize many children and young adults are involved in a variety of activities; however, we cannot make exceptions for schedule conflicts. Below is the tentative competition schedule for The Royal Academy 2023-2024.

NOVEMBER 2023

UCL Orange & Blue Preview in Lubbock, TX

NOVEMBER 11, 2023

ASC in Lubbock, TX

DECEMBER 9, 2023

Redline in Lubbock, TX

JANUARY 26-28, 2024

American Showdown in Fort Worth, TX

MARCH 8-10, 2024

Athletic Championships in Oklahoma City, OK

APRIL 12-14, 2024

The GLOW Event, Redline in Frisco, TX

athlete party Friday night

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

JUNE 19-22, 2023: Uniform Fittings

JULY 13, 2023: Uniform Payment Due Date

JULY 24-27, 2023: Nfinity Shoe Fitting

JULY 21, 2023: STUNT/PYRAMID CHOREOGRAPHY*

AUGUST 4-5, 2023: ROUTINE CHOREOGRAPHY*

NOVEMBER 12, 2023: UCL Picture Day

**Choreography Dates are absolutely Mandatory!*

Please plan holidays and vacations to fall during the times to the right, as the gym will be closed.

This is promised time off from Ultimate Cheer Lubbock. Absolutely no team practice!

JUNE 30-JULY 8 (Summer Break)

SEPTEMBER 1-SEPTEMBER 4 (Labor Day Weekend)

NOVEMBER 20-26 (Thanksgiving Break)

DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 6 (Christmas Break)

MARCH 11-17 (Spring Break)

MARCH 31ST (Easter)

MAY 24-27 (Memorial Day Weekend)



THE ROYAL ACADEMY

TEAM ALTERNATES

Alternates must follow all requirements and guidelines. Alternates must pay their Commitment Fee and purchase their own uniform. Alternates who attend competitions (not on the mat) will be required to pay their competition entry fees.

Athletes can be moved to an alternate position if they do not maintain the skills requirements for their team. Being moved to an alternate position does not mean the athlete is taken off of the team roster.

If an athlete is moved to an alternate position mid-season, the athlete that replaced them in the routine will take over tuition/fees payments until the alternate earns their spot back. If a team receives a PAID Bid to a post season event and both alternate and athlete on mat attend the post season event, alternate and athlete on mat will split the cost of additional rostered athlete 50/50.

SICK POLICY

You must provide a doctor's note (with detailed information regarding the illness/injury, treatment plan, length of time out of activity, and date the athlete can return to activity) to be excused from practice or competition if your athlete is sick/injured. We will not make exceptions. You will not be required to come to the gym if you provide a doctor's note. An athlete will jeopardize their position if this rule is not followed. Extended sickness such as mono or COVID-19 can jeopardize an athlete's position on the team because of absences.

TEAM PRACTICE RULES

There is to be **NO JEWELRY** worn at practices, which includes all earrings, belly button rings, rings, bracelets, watches, and necklaces. This is for the safety of the one wearing the jewelry and for those either flying, basing, or back spotting who may be injured as a result.

There is to be **NO FOOD, NO DRINKS (screw cap water only), AND NO GUM OR CANDY WHATSOEVER in the gym.**

There is to be NO videotaping of practices.

Practice clothing MUST BE WORN as scheduled. Lost, misplaced, or damaged clothing will be replaced at your expense (your account on file will be charged for a replacement). Anyone late or dressed incorrectly will condition after practice. Ultimate Cheer Lubbock is about building champions and teaching responsibility to our athletes.

CODE OF CONDUCT

A member (athletes and family members) must at all times be a positive representative of Ultimate Cheer Lubbock and a positive reflection of his/her teammates. Abusive behavior, lying, and/or any other form of negative behavior are grounds for removal from the team. We will NOT tolerate comments about other teams and their programs. Many of you communicate with other cheerleaders at various organizations through text message, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, TikTok, SnapChat, and other social media. **Please remember anything you ever say is a direct reflection on this organization.** If you are caught sending rude or inappropriate messages on social media, you will be subject to immediate removal!

Teammates and families are expected to treat one another with mutual respect. They should treat and talk to one another in a manner in which they want to be spoken to. We do not tolerate pettiness, gossiping, or cliques; which attempt to exclude or alienate certain members.

Back talk, rolling of eyes and any other disrespect towards staff or teammates is unacceptable. After a warning, the team member will sit out of practice until the problem is solved.

Use of alcohol, drugs, or vapes/e-cigarettes by an athlete of Ultimate Cheer Lubbock can result in **IMMEDIATE dismissal.**

MISCELLANEOUS

NO VIDEOS of routines or choreography should be uploaded to any online site such as YouTube or Facebook.

Manny & Shirley MUST APPROVE all designs bearing the Ultimate Cheer Lubbock name and/or logo. **Anything created without approval will not be acceptable and cannot be worn or sold independently. This includes home made designs and designs created by a third party.**

We expect for every athlete to watch and cheer for other Ultimate Cheer Lubbock teams. This may mean you may have to arrive earlier or leave later than required for your own performances/awards. Poor sportsmanship by athletes or parents may result in removal from the program. Ultimate Cheer Lubbock has a reputation of very enthusiastic fans at competition and we would like to keep it that way! It is important for our parents to be loud and supportive for ALL of our UCL teams. In fact, it should sound like you are at a playoff game cheering on your favorite pro sports team. Face paint optional!



THE ROYAL ACADEMY

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Ultimate Cheer Lubbock's only accepted method of payment is automatic draft from a BANK ACCOUNT for all monthly tuition and fee payments. ALL credit or debit card (Visa/Mastercard) drafts will be charged a 3% fee per transaction. Monthly TUITION payments will be drafted on the 1st of each month and monthly FEE payments will be drafted on the 15th of each month. **If you need a different payment schedule, there will be an additional \$20 charge per month per draft, no exceptions.**

All athletes must show a \$0.00 balance on their account to be eligible for the 2023-2024 season. Ultimate Cheer Lubbock's The Royal Academy is a 12-month commitment from June 1, 2023 to May 31, 2024. By accepting a spot on a team, you are agreeing to a 12-month financial commitment and will owe tuition and fees for all 12 months.

If an athlete's account falls 30-days past due, the athlete will be removed from the competition routine, and they will not be allowed to participate in practices or other Ultimate Cheer Lubbock events until the outstanding balance is paid.

There will be a \$30.00 charge for declined automatic draft payments or returned checks.

There are no refunds for tuition or fees paid into the program.

If your athlete is unable to finish the season due to a season-ending injury (must turn in a doctor's note), you will be released from your financial commitment and forfeit any funds already paid to Ultimate Cheer Lubbock. Please be aware that due to our payment schedule, you may owe additional fees that you have not yet covered. All resignations must be received by email or hand written letter (text message or Facebook/social media is not acceptable).

If an athlete quits without a season-ending injury with a doctor's excuse, their account will be immediately charged for all uncovered expenses PLUS a \$300 quit fee. If an athlete quits before receiving any Ultimate Cheer Lubbock merchandise including practice outfits, warm-ups, t-shirts, uniform, etc., they will become the property of Ultimate Cheer Lubbock, and the athlete will not receive a refund.

PRICING

Commitment Fee:

\$75

Commitment Fee is due at the time of sign up and covers the athlete's Ultimate Yearly Registration Fee and partial practice clothes payment. If you are placed on a team and refuse your spot, your Commitment Fee will be nonrefundable. Athletes will not be placed on a team until the Commitment Fee is paid.

Monthly Tuition:

\$120

12 payments on the 1st of each month from June 2023 - May 2024. Monthly Tuition covers all regularly scheduled and extra team practices and 1 tumbling class per week. Tuition will not be pro-rated for gym closings, holidays, and weeks without practice.

Monthly Fees:

\$120

12 payments on the 15th of each month from June 2023 - May 2024. Monthly fees INCLUDE an Ultimate Cheer Lubbock car sticker, 2023-2024 program t-shirt, practice wear, choreography and music fees, 2023-2024 program jersey and 5 competition registration fees. Fees cost will vary if the athlete joins after June 15th.

OTHER COSTS (estimates):

- Athlete's Yearly USASF Membership Fee \$49
- Uniform \$350 (due July 13, 2023)
- Nfinity Cheerleading Shoes \$90-\$125 (due July 27, 2023)
- Travel expenses for out of town events
- Any athlete who makes a team who turns 18 before December 31, 2023 will incur a fee for a Background Check



THE ROYAL ACADEMY

SKILLS BY LEVEL

LEVEL 1

Tumbling: Cartwheel, Round-Off, Front & Back Rolls, Backbend kick over, Front Limber, Front & Back Walkovers
Jumps: Pike, Front Hurdler, and Toe Touch

LEVEL 2

Tumbling: Back Handspring, Back Walkover Back Handspring, Front Walkover Round-Off Back Handspring
Jumps: Pike, Front Hurdler, and Double Whip Toe Touch
Building: Ability to perform Level 2 Stunts as a Base, Back Spot, or Flyer (examples: prep level lib variations, extensions)

LEVEL 3

Tumbling: Standing 3 Back Handsprings, Toe Touch Back Handspring, Round-Off Back Handspring Back Tuck, Punch Front
Jumps: Triple Whip Jump Combo
Building: Ability to perform Level 3 Stunts as a Base, Back Spot, or Flyer (examples: extended lib variations, full up to prep, extension with full down cradle, full basket toss)

We believe in PERFECTION BEFORE PROGRESSION. We will not allow athletes to learn advanced tumbling skills before perfecting their basics. If parents and athletes are not patient and have a clear understanding of our teaching methods, they should not be cheering at Ultimate Cheer Lubbock.

Proper technique is everything! Only perfected skills will be choreographed in an Ultimate Cheer Lubbock routine. Parents are NOT allowed to spot their children on Ultimate Cheer Lubbock / APEX Event Center property. Absolutely NO unsupervised tumbling. An instructor must be present at all times.

Ultimate Cheer Lubbock reserves the right to change a teams division and level at any time throughout the year. Mandatory tumbling will be assigned as needed. Athletes can be moved to an alternate position or moved down a team level if they do not maintain the skill requirements.



ULTIMATE CHEER LUBBOCK

7806 County Road 7050
Lubbock, TX 79407
(806) 218-1600

MANNY@ultimatecheerlubbock.com
SHIRLEY@ultimatecheerlubbock.com
ABBY@ultimatecheerlubbock.com
INFO@ultimatecheerlubbock.com

www.ultimatecheerlubbock.com



2023-2024 TRYOUT CHECK LIST

SUBMIT YOUR ATHLETE'S 2023-2024 INTEREST FORM

This helps us get to know your athlete a little bit better before tryouts and allows us to make sure we have the most up to date contact information on file for quick updates.

READ/SUBMIT MANDATORY CONTRACT

You must read, understand and agree to all sections of the 2023-2024 Mandatory Contract. Go to www.ultimatecheerlubbock.com/compete Scroll down to The Royal Academy Click "Mandatory Contract" & submit Mandatory Contracts are due May 21, 2023.

PAY \$75 COMMITMENT FEE

Commitment Fee is due at the time of sign up. If you are placed on a team and refuse your spot, your Commitment Fee will be nonrefundable. Commitment Fees are due May 21, 2023. Credit/Debit card payments will incur a 3% processing fee.

LEARN TRYOUT DANCE

Tryout Dance choreography videos will be posted on May 8th on our social media and YouTube channel. We will provide a video for levels 1-2 and a video for levels 3+. Athletes are expected to learn the dance prior to the first evaluation date.

ATTEND TRYOUTS

All Levels: May 18, 2023 | 7:00-8:30pm & May 19, 2023 | 5:00-8:00pm

ALL ATHLETES wanting to be considered for a team MUST attend tryouts. *Female tryout attire: solid black sports bra & solid black spandex. Hair must be pulled up out of your face. Male tryout attire: solid black t-shirt & solid black shorts.* Athletes who cannot attend tryouts during the above dates must schedule a private tryout by emailing MANNY@ultimatecheerlubbock.com

CHECK EMAIL ON MAY 30, 2023

Preliminary team placements will be emailed on May 30, 2023. This email will also have important information on how we will communicate for the remainder of the season. Team practices will begin the week of June 5, 2023.